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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/562,812	12/27/2005	Hironobu Inamasu	4991-0106PUS1	6563
2292 7590 09/17/2008 BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747				
EXAMINER				
BHAT, NINA NMN				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
1797				
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
09/17/2008		ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

mailroom@bskb.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/562,812

Applicant(s)

INAMASU ET AL.

Examiner

N. Bhat

Art Unit

1797

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 March 2008.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 December 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-850)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3-19-08/11/13/07:4/27/07
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. The examiner acknowledges applicant's preliminary amendment of December 27, 2005.

2. Figures 14 and 15 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

5. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 2002-038159, hereinafter referred as Nippon Steel, (English Machine Translation).

Nippon Steel teaches a coke oven repairing apparatus which comprises a traveling carriage which travels in the direction of the coke oven battery. The device observes as well as repairs the coke oven and include a transverse carriage (14) on a travel carriage (13) traveling on rails (12) set on the oven of the coke oven (11) and disposing on the transverse carriage elevation guides (17) and elevation carriages (18a, 18b) which hold lances (15, 16) which can be moved upwardly or downwardly in the elevation guides (17). The device as described by Nippon Steel includes a working device which has elements which are functionally equivalent to applicant guide post, traversing carriage and lance which ascends or descends along the guide post.[Note Machine Translation Page 4 , Pagaragraph [[0009]-[0011].

However Nippon Steel does not teach that the lance includes oscillating means.

Nippon Steel teaches that the lance can be used for observation and repair, the water cooled lance (15) is repairing lance which is proved with a nozzle for thermal spraying at the tip and is attached to the boarding ramp vehicle (18), the observation ramp (16) is provided with an inspection hole, a camera etc., at the tip is attached to the boarding ramp vehicle (18b). The boarding ramps(18a,18b) permit movement such the lances can be moved within the coke oven for observation and for repairing a damaged coke oven, the construction and arrangement with the lance, the boarding ramp care and endless track permit observation of the flue wall of the coke oven in 360 degrees, the lance can ascend and descends and the lance for replacing can be inclined, and tilted in order to fully repair all areas of the coke oven. The lance is not oscillated per se but the lance as constructed and arranged in conjunction with the guide post and boarding ramp vehicle taught in Nippon Steel is fully capable of performing the same tasks as claimed by applicant and to use an arrangement such as taught in Nippon steel which includes a device for repairing a coke oven including guide post, boarding ramps, lance arrangement are equivalent structures to applicant's working device and to use a structure

taught in Nippon steel for movement of the lance for repair and substituting this arrangement for the lance oscillating means taught by applicant would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art because these elements although different in fact perform the same function.

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Stream teaches a mobile refractory apparatus for repairing the interior of furnace walls. Hippe et al. teach a method for repairing the heating flues of a coke oven batter and device for carrying out the repair. Wirth, Jr. teaches a vessel inspection and repair system.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to N. Bhat whose telephone number is 571-272-1397. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9:30AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn Caldarola can be reached on 571-272-1444. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/N. Bhat/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1797